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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 3, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 29 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 11.8 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 43 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 686.6 billion ton-miles, 2.8 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 29 totaled 403,349 cars, 10.4 percent over 1982, but 1.4 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 9.4 percent in the East, 6.8 percent in the South and 13.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with metallic ores showing an increase of 6,056 cars, or 51.9 percent; motor vehicles and equipment up 5,976 cars, or 41.8 percent; and nonmetallic minerals up 4,057 cars, or 43.7 percent. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 22 totaled 50,809 cars, up 22.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 89,006 trailers and/or containers, 20.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of the year was 1,879,391 cars, 21.6 percent higher than last year, and 3,249,595 trailers and/or containers, up 18.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/29/83:

	Loadings in Week ended October 29, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,259	I	1,515	5.3	D	63	0.2
Other farm products	5,615	D	1,007	15.2	D	640	10.2
Metallic ores	17,722	I	6,056	51.9	D	3,036	14.6
Coal	109,523	I	1,433	1.3	D	5,094	4.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,182	I	1,249	12.6	D	139	1.2
Nonmetallic minerals	13,347	I	4,057	43.7	I	542	4.2
Grain mill products	11,438	D	592	4.9	D	584	4.9
Food and kindred products	12,197	D	1,659	12.0	D	85	0.7
Primary forest products	15,020	I	359	2.4	I	116	0.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,922	I	1,245	18.6	I	501	6.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,950	D	1,323	8.1	D	197	1.3
Chemicals and allied products	24,777	I	3,600	17.0	I	149	0.6
Petroleum products	4,744	D	90	1.9	D	53	1.1
Stone, clay and glass products	11,738	I	1,697	16.9	I	181	1.6
Coke	5,180	I	1,518	41.5	I	240	4.9
Metals and products	9,389	I	1,928	25.8	I	549	6.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,287	I	5,976	41.8	I	492	2.5
Waste and scrap materials	9,081	I	1,093	13.7	I	67	0.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,734	I	2,453	29.6	I	476	4.6
All other carloads	57,982	I	9,517	19.6	I	734	1.3
LCL traffic	262	D	877	77.0	D	24	8.4
Total Cars Loaded	403,349	I	38,148	10.4	D	5,868	1.4

Corresponding week of 1982 365,201

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (43 weeks)	15,598,201	15,656,094	D 0.4

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

42 weeks ended October 22	668.7	652.0	I 2.6
Week ended October 29	18.0	16.1	I 11.8
43 weeks cumulative	686.6	668.1	I 2.8

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